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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ಶ್r(s): Karen W. Shannon, et al.

Serial No.:

09/784,674

Examiner: Channing Mahatan

Filing Date: Feb. 15, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1631

Title:

Methods for Evaluating Oligonucleotide Probe Sequences

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

In an Office Action mailed on Nov. 5, 2003 , on the above-identified U.S. Patent application, a shortened statutory period of 3 months was set for response. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), applicant(s) hereby request(s) a: (X)one month () two months () three months () four months

time extension so that the period for response to the Office Action expires on March 5, 2004

Authorization to charge the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17 to Deposit Account 50-1078 appears in the enclosed transmittal letter. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

03/08/2004 EHAILE1 00000063 501078 09784674

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Date of Deposit: March 1, 2004

Typed Name: Theodore J. Leitereg

Respectfully submitted,

Karen W. Shannon, et al.

Theodore J. Leitereg

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Date: March 1, 2004

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